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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/788,427	02/27/2004	Paul Alistair Thomas	684-011708-US (PAR)	6990
2512	7590	10/26/2005	EXAMINER	
PERMAN & GREEN 425 POST ROAD FAIRFIELD, CT 06824			LA, NICHOLAS T	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2687	
DATE MAILED: 10/26/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	10/788,427		THOMAS ET AL.	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	Nicholas T. La		2687	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 February 2004 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>02/27/04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The reference listed in the Information Disclosure Statement filed on February 27, 2003 has been considered by the examiner (see attached PTO-1449 form or PTO/SB/08A and 08B forms).

Drawings

Figure 1 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). Corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

The drawings are objected to because the applicant left out figure 4b as being disclosed in the specification. There are two 4as in the drawings. For the examination purpose, figure 4a on the right hand side has been considered as 4b according to the information that is being disclosed in the specification. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if

only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

Claim 5 is objected to because of the following informalities: The applicant discloses "said guiding pieces comprises one or more ribs extending to be received by said guide pieces". Such statement is unclear and difficult for the examiner to know exactly what the applicant really means. The applicant needs to either rephrase or make appropriate adjustment to the claim. Appropriate correction is required. For the examining purposes, the examiner has assumed the above statement as followed: "said guiding pieces comprises one or more ribs extending to be received by said guide recesses."

Claim 6 objected to because of the following informalities: a misspelling has been found. The word "compriseing" should be corrected to "comprising". Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jokinen et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0201983) in view of Mockridge et al. (U.S. Patent 6,876,543).

Regarding claim 1, Jokinen et al. discloses a communication device comprising a keymat, a cover, and a substrate comprising a plurality of key switches (sections [0011], [0012], [0032]). The keymat comprises a plurality of lips (section [0035]), and the cover comprises a plurality of indentations (section [0035]) to receive plurality of said lips.

Jokinen et al. does not disclose said indentations are located at edges of a recess for removal of mounting said keymat.

Mockridge et al. discloses a housing assembly for a communication device including a front and rear housings. Mockridge et al. further teaches a cover with

indentations that are located at edges of a recess (see figures 1 6, 7, and 8, col. 4, line 37 to col. 5, line 28). Figure 1 shows an over view of a front and back cover of a cell phone. On the front cover, it shows a plurality of indentations on the edges of the recess of the front cover are to receive lips from the back cover.

Both Jonkinen et al. and Mockridge et al. are analogous art because they are from the same field of improving wireless communication devices. It would have been obvious to modify Jokinen et al. to include indentations that are located at edges of a recess for the purpose of removing mounting keymat such as that taught by Mockridge et al. in order to improve making connection between keymat and cover.

Regarding claim 2, Mockridge et al. further discloses a front cover comprises one or more guiding pieces, and a rear cover comprises one or more corresponding guiding recesses (see figure 1, col. 5, line 28 to 50). Figure 1 again confirms that there are guiding pieces 62, 68, 66 that used to guide the assembly of the front and rear housings of the unit.

Regarding claim 3, Mockridge et al. further discloses a front cover comprises guiding pieces that are arranged in direct connection to one or more of said plurality of lips (see figures 1 and 10, col. 5, line 28 to 50).

Regarding claim 4, Mockridge et al. discloses a front cover comprises one or more guiding recesses like latches 70, 72, and a rear cover comprises one or more

corresponding guiding pieces like hooks 66, and 68 (see figures 1 and 11, col. 5, line 28 to 50).

Regarding claim 5, Mockridge et al. discloses a front cover comprises one or more guiding pieces, and a rear cover comprises one or more corresponding guiding recesses so that guiding pieces comprise one or more ribs extending to be received by said guide recesses as shown in figure 11, guide pieces 66, 68 with ribs extending out to be received by guide recesses 70, and 72 (see figures 1 and 11, col. 5, line 28 to 50).

Regarding claim 6, Jokinen et al. discloses a communication device comprising a cover comprising a recess for receiving a keymat comprising a plurality of lips (sections [0011], [0035]).

Jokinen et al. does not disclose a cover, comprising a plurality of indentations located at the edges of said recess for receiving said plurality of lips.

Mockridge et al. discloses a communication device with a front cover comprising a recess that comprises a plurality of indentations located at the edges of said recess, and a rear cover comprises a plurality of lips so that the plurality of indentations are to receive said plurality of lips (see figures 1, 6, 10, and 11).

Both Jonkinen et al. and Mockridge et al. are analogous art because they are from the same field of improving wireless communication devices. It would have been obvious to modify Jokinen et al. to include a cover comprising a recess that comprises a plurality of indentations at the edges of said recess for receiving a plurality of lips of said

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keymat for the purpose of guiding mounting keymat onto such cover such as that taught by Mockridge et al. in order to improve making connection between keymat and cover.

Regarding claim 7, Mockridge et al. further discloses a communication device with a cover comprising one or more guiding recesses. Figure 1 shows a front cover of a cellphone with guiding recesses 70, and 72 (see figures 1, 8, 10, and 11, col. 4, line 23 to col. 5, line 50)

Regarding claim 8, Mockridge et al. further discloses a communication device with a cover comprising a recess, wherein said one or more guiding recesses are arranged in direct connection to one or more of said plurality of indentations (see figures 1, 6, 7, 10, and 11).

Regarding claims 9, and 10, Mockridge et al. further discloses a communication device with a cover comprising one or more guiding pieces, wherein the guiding pieces have one or more rib on a surface of said cover facing a place where the other cover is to be mounted. Figures 1 and 11 clearly show that the guiding pieces 68 and 66 are having ribs that are facing to where the other cover is to be mounted to (see figures 1, 6, 7, 10, and 11, col. 5, line 28 to line 50).

Regarding claim 11, Jokinen et al. discloses a communication device comprising a cover and a keymat with lips for removable mounting from the cover (sections [0011], [0035]).

Jokinen et al. does not disclose a keymat comprising lips located at the edges of said keymat configured to insert into indentations of said cover.

Mockridge et al. discloses a communication device with a cover comprising lips that located on the edges of the cover configured to insert into indentations of the other cover (Figures 1, 2, 6, 7, 10, 11, col. 4, 23 to col. 5, line 50).

Both Jonkinen et al. and Mockridge et al. are analogous art because they are from the same field of improving wireless communication devices. It would have been obvious to modify Jokinen et al. to include a keymat comprising lips that located on the edges of the cover configured to insert into indentations of the other cover for the purpose of mounting keymat onto such cover such as that taught by Mockridge et al. in order to improve making connection between keymat and cover.

Regarding claims 12, 13, Mockridge et al. further discloses a communication device with a cover comprising one or more guiding pieces, wherein said guiding pieces are arranged in direct connection to one or more of said plurality of lips. Figures 1 and 11 are clearly showing that the guiding pieces 66 and 68 are locating in direct connection to the lips that are located on the side of the cover (Figures 1, 6, 10, 11, col. 4, line 23 to col. 5, line 50).

Regarding claims 14, Mockridge et al. further discloses a communication device with a cover comprising one or more recesses. Figure 10 shows a guiding recess for the rear cover called loop 64 (Figures 10, 11, col. 4, line 23 to col. 5, line 50).

Regarding claims 15, Mockridge et al. further discloses a communication device with a cover comprising one or more guiding recesses are an incision in a surface that is to be in contact with the other cover when mounted on the other cover. The guiding recess loop 64 as pointed out above is an incision in the top wall of the rear cover and to be mounted to the cantilever arm 62 of the front cover (Figures 1, 6, 10, 11).

Regarding claims 16, Mockridge et al. further discloses a communication device with a cover comprising lips that located on the edges of the cover configured to insert into indentations of the other cover that is being moulded in one piece (Figures 1, 2, 6, 7, 10, 11, col. 4, 23 to col. 5, line 50).

Reference Cited

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Franck Pavet (US Patent 6,229,994) discloses a fitting device formed by a mat of elastic material having a keyboard and a housing for a display panel.

Curtis et al. (US Patent 6,847,806) discloses a keymat wherein snapped on and off to a cover.

Olkola (US Patent 6,041,120) discloses an installation mat packs the components against the casing and at the same time serves as a shock absorber.

Humphreys et al. (US Patent 6,731,913) discloses an enclosure includes a cover made of an elastomer so that it can be stretch ed over the chassis containing the device's internal components.

Pirilaet et al. (US Patent 6,950,516) discloses an user changeable electronic device/mobile phone covers and mothod.

Mischenko (US Patent 5,982,881) discloses a radiotelephone handset having a faceplate to accommodate a plurality of distinctive telephone appearances.

Slipy et al. (US Patent 5,848,152) discloses a communication device having interchangeable faceplates and active keypad cover.

Kwak (US Patent 6,839,430) discloses a front cover comprises an external pad having a transparent display window placing portion and button placing portions which are projected outwardly from an outer surface of the external pad.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nicholas T. La whose telephone number is (571)-272-8075. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lester Kincaid can be reached on (571)-272-7922. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "u" followed by a stylized flourish.

Date: October 20, 2005

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Sonny Trinh".

SONNY TRINH
PRIMARY EXAMINER